

REMARKS

A petition to extend the time for response by three (3) months is enclosed herewith.

Claims 15 and 22 have been amended. Claims 15 – 28 are currently pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to. In the Office Action, claims 15-20 and 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680. Additionally, in the Office Action, claims 21 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 in view of Haverkamp DE 27 05 329.

With regard to the drawing objection, Applicant agrees to provide drawings showing the features of the “water bearing domestic appliance” and the “retainer” and Applicant notes that such drawings will be provided shortly.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of claims 15 and 22 and the following comments.

The present invention relates to a drainage pump and, as exemplarily set forth in claim 22 of the present application as currently amended, the drainage pump can include an inlet through which liquid enters the drainage pump, an outlet through which liquid exits the drainage pump, and a pump impeller for conveying liquid along a passage through the drainage pump extending from the inlet to the outlet. Additionally, the inventive drainage pump can include, as further recited in claim 22 of the present application as currently amended, a

separate chamber located downstream of the pump impeller relative to the direction of flow of liquid through the passage. The separate chamber has an internal diameter and an external diameter and having respective radial bores on its external diameter and in the vicinity of its internal diameter. Moreover, the operation of the drainage pump is such that liquid received into the drainage pump via the inlet flows into an area of the passage at which the pump impeller is operating and thereafter flows further along the passage with at least some of the liquid flowing into contact with the separate chamber downstream of the pump impeller and entering and passing through the radial bores of the separate chamber.

Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 discloses a circulating pump for circulating liquid through the spray arms of a dishwasher.

Haverkamp DE 27 05 329 discloses a drainage pump for a dishwasher, wherein the drainage pump includes a tangential outlet spigot.

It is respectfully submitted that neither Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 nor Haverkamp DE 27 05 329, alone or in combination, teach or disclose the drainage pump of the present invention. For example, Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 discloses a circulating pump for circulating liquid through the spray arms of a dishwasher and therefore Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 would not provide one of ordinary skill in the art with any suggestion or teaching to turn to this reference with regard to improvements for a drainage pump. Moreover, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to turn to Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680, which Applicant submits would not be the case, Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 still fails to teach or disclose a pump having the features of the inventive drainage pump of the present invention as set forth in independent claims 15 and 22 of the present invention and the claims depending therefrom.

For example, Woehler US Patent No. 3,702,680 discloses that liquid flows through a plurality of openings 30 that are upstream of its impeller 40 while, in direct contrast, the inventive drainage pump of the present invention includes a separate chamber positioned relative to the pump impeller such that at least some of the liquid flows into contact with the separate chamber downstream of the pump impeller and enters and passes through the radial bores of the separate chamber.

For these and other reasons, it is submitted that the prior art of record does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent claims 15 and 22. Therefore, claims 15 and 22 allowable. Claims 16 – 21 and claims 23 -28, respectively, depend from claims 15 and 22 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of claims 15 – 28 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted



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